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Michael J. Tilley

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EXAMINER

COZART, JERMIE E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3726

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PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.



## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Election/Restrictions***

1. Applicant's election without traverse of claims 16 and 18-21 in the reply filed on 4/8/08 is acknowledged.

### ***Specification***

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: On **page 5**, *paragraph [0025], line 6*, "the end of the bore 103" is objected to because reference numeral "103" is the incorrect reference numeral therefore it is suggested to change "the end of the bore 103" to - the end 103 of the bore 110- -. Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:  

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
4. Claims 16 and 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
5. Claim 16 recites the limitation "the tool" in line 7 of the claim. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

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(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 16 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wilson (5,249,899).

Regarding **claim 16**, Wilson discloses starting a fastener (10), by a) using a shaft (20) having a bore (21); b) placing an amount of a tacky substance (i.e. adhesive, 31) on an end (14) of the fastener (10); c) inserting the end of the fastener (10) with the amount of tacky substance (31) into the bore (21); d) starting inserted fastener into a desired location; and e) removing the tool (20) from the fastener (10).

Regarding **claim 18**, Wilson discloses the shaft (20) being inherently comprised of metal.

*See column 3, line 60 – column 4, line 33, and figures 4-9 for further clarification.*

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 16, 18, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fox (3,788,537) in view of Hanny et al. (3,485,132). *See column 2, lines 1-66 and figures 1-5 for further clarification.*

Regarding **claim 16**, Fox discloses starting a fastener (44), by using a shaft (36) having a bore (30); inserting the end of the fastener (44) into the bore (36); starting

inserted fastener into a desired location (60); and removing the tool (2, 10, 36) from the fastener (44).

Regarding **claim 18**, it is inherent that the shaft (36) is comprised of metal.

Regarding **claim 19**, Fox discloses the fastener (44) being a roll pin.

Fox, however, does not disclose placing an amount of tacky substance on an end of the fastener.

Hanny discloses placing a tacky substance (26, 29) on an end of the fastener (see FIG. 7). *See column 5, line 47 – column 6, line 9, and figure 7 for further clarification.*

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply a tacky substance to end of the fastener of Fox, in light of the teachings of Hanny, in order to effectively provide a coating which aids in the attachment of the fastener to another component.

10. Claims 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilson (5,249,899).

Wilson discloses all of the claimed subject matter except for the fastener being a roll pin, the tacky substance being grease or wheel bearing grease.

At the time the invention was made, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use grease such as wheel bearing grease because Applicant has not disclosed that using grease such as wheel bearing grease as the tacky substance provides an advantage, is used for a particular purpose, or solves a stated problem. One of ordinary skill in the art, furthermore, would

have expected Applicant's invention to perform equally well with adhesive as the tacky substance because the fastener is effectively secured.

Therefore, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to modify Wilson to obtain the invention as specified in claims 20 and 21.

### ***Conclusion***

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jermie E. Cozart whose telephone number is 571-272-4528. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 7:30 am - 6:00 pm. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

12. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jermie E Cozart/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3726

May 6, 2008